



# Newsletter

Colorado, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Arkansas, Texas, Kansas, Mexico

May 2017

## Ch-Ch-CH-Changes.... In Region 6! Kerry Painter to assume Region 6 Director role

We are sad to see Brian Stovall leave Region 6 but I am grateful for the time and talents he shared with us while here. With his departure, I will be preparing to assume his Director role at the August conference in Nashville. Region 6 is comprised of such a vibrant engaged group of Venue Professionals, it is an honor to be part of this governing team and I look forward to meeting and working with all of you. – Kerry Painter

### Calling all volunteers and Host Cities!



#### Positions available:

We are actively **looking to fill two positions**; the Region 6 Vice-Director position, which will now be available as of July as well as a vacant Region 6 Secretary position. If you have a desire to serve in either position, or wish to nominate someone else you believe shines, please express interest or send your idea to the Nominating committee at [bcmayerok@me.com](mailto:bcmayerok@me.com). Deadline for [submissions is June 15<sup>th</sup> please.](#)

#### Host City:

We are looking for a **city to host the bi-annual region conference**, which takes place Late Winter of 2018. This is a three-day conference designed to educate and inspire you to elevate your game, help you to reconnect or make new industry friends and best of all, to fund scholarships for those coming up behind us. If your city has interest in hosting or you would like more information please contact me at [Kpainter@smgtulsa.com](mailto:Kpainter@smgtulsa.com).

Of course this leads me to ...If you have an interest in serving on the **conference planning committee** please express your interest to me at [Kpainter@smgtulsa.com](mailto:Kpainter@smgtulsa.com). While a Board position requires you to maintain a membership with IAVM, a region committee appointment does not so please share this opportunity with your enthusiastic venue teams.

I look forward to reconnecting with or meeting many of you in Nashville for our first ever combined annual Venue Connect Conference and then regularly throughout the year via our Region newsletter and Region conference.

Until then, thank you for considering our Volunteer positions and sharing your region news with all of us! - Kerry Painter

### VenuWorks with the Topeka Performing Arts Center Seeking Development Manager

VenuWorks is currently hiring for a full-time Development Manager at the Topeka Performing Arts Center. The Development Manager is a newly created role that will be responsible for the identification, solicitation, and cultivation of annual fundraising that will be used to advance TPAC's mission: "To foster the performing arts through excellence in programming by providing for the advancement, promotion, presentation, and development of the arts to meet the diverse cultural and educational needs of our community."

Find a complete description is at [www.topekaperformingarts.org/employment](http://www.topekaperformingarts.org/employment). Resumes can be emailed to Larry Gawronski at [executivedirector@tpactix.org](mailto:executivedirector@tpactix.org). No phone inquiries please.

## Fair Park Welcomes KelVon Greer, Event Coordinator



Fair Park is excited to introduce our newest team member, Event Coordinator KelVon Greer. Most recently, KelVon completed her internship with the Dallas Cowboys Football Club in their Event Operations Team & with the Dallas Sport & Social beforehand. KelVon received her B.S. in Kinesiology at the University of Central Arkansas and her M.S. in Sport Management from Florida State University.

## Arijit Singh a Big Hit at Curtis Culwell Center



On April 23, 2017 the Curtis Culwell Center opened its doors to 5,000 excited fans to watch Arijit Singh perform live in concert. The Indian sensation put on a mesmerizing show from start to finish with a fantastic production and catalog of music.

## Curtis Culwell Center seeks new Event Coordinator

### Qualifications

- ◆ Bachelor's Degree or equivalent experience relevant to the position.
- ◆ Valid state driver's license required.

### Summation of Duties

- ◆ Provides the primary face-to-face contact with facility users and patrons during events.
- ◆ Create and distribute event floor plans, schedules, invoices, and other pertinent information
- ◆ Works with the Event Services Manager to coordinate all event service personnel during events including event security, ushers, ticket takers, ticket sellers, parking attendants, technicians, event custodians, contracted event services, etc.
- ◆ Utilizes Ungerboeck software in scheduling, booking, invoicing, and generating information or reports.
- ◆ Completes all event documents including a detailed event report, incident reports, to include actual move-in times, event times, and move-out times, and provides administration with a detailed event log and a summary so that a Final Invoice for the client can be made, the event closed, and a record is made of the event.
- ◆ Creates or assists in creating an event plan as needed for each event and conducts pre-event meetings with all event personnel prior to events.
- ◆ Interacts appropriately as lead facility contact with police, fire, rescue, health department, building inspector, EMT, and other officials as needed during events.

To apply, please visit [www.garlandisd.net](http://www.garlandisd.net) and submit your application online.

## BOK CENTER HIGHLIGHTED AS TOP STOP IN INDUSTRY

The SMG-managed BOK Center will be highlighted in the upcoming April issue of the trade publication *Venues Today* as the #3 "Top Stop" in the Midwest based on concert and event grosses from February 1, 2016 through January 31, 2017.

The venue ranks #3 for venues with a capacity between 15,001-30,000. During that time period, BOK Center hosted dozens of events including sold-out crowds for Justin Bieber, Carrie Underwood, Mumford & Sons and Coldplay. Billy Joel played only one of four arena dates outside of Manhattan, Iron Maiden played one of only nine select U.S. dates and Pentatonix had the highest grossing show date of their entire tour at BOK Center.

(Continued, page 3...)

“Nearly a decade after opening, BOK Center continues to be one of the country’s top destinations for live entertainment” said BOK Center General Manager Jeff Nickler. “We are thankful to the loyal fans who continue to buy tickets in record numbers and for the promoters and agents who continue to believe in the Tulsa market.”

Xcel Energy Center (Minnesota) finished in the top spot while Target Center (Minneapolis) came in second. BOK Center was followed in the Top 5 by United Center (Chicago) and Sprint Center (Kansas City).

In addition to garnering high event grosses, BOK Center was also named “Arena of the Year” in 2016 by the International Entertainment Buyers Association. The industry trade group and its voters selected the Tulsa venue for the prestigious award over Madison Square Garden (New York City), Barclays Center (Brooklyn), T-Mobile Arena (Las Vegas) and The Forum (Los Angeles).

## **BOK CENTER #11 ARENA IN THE UNITED STATES**

### ***Venue is highest ranked SMG-managed arena in North America***

BOK Center continues to maintain its status as one of the world’s busiest concert arenas. Earlier today, *Pollstar* announced their 2017 First Quarter Top 100 Arena Venues based on ticket sales and BOK Center finished #11 in the United States and #35 in the world. BOK Center was also the highest ranked arena in North America managed by SMG, the Philadelphia-based venue operator that manages over 230 facilities, nearly 70 arenas, and over 1.75 million seats worldwide.

“We couldn't have this sustained success without the support of the loyal fans along with the agents and promoters who continue to believe in the Tulsa market,” said BOK Center General Manager Jeff Nickler. “This honor doesn't only belong to SMG, but also to our regional ticket buyers, sponsors and corporate partners that have supported this venue from day one.”

The #11 ranking in the United States puts BOK Center right behind Bridgestone Arena (Nashville) who ranked #10 and right in front of Staples Center (Los Angeles) who ranked #12. The Tulsa venue sold more concert tickets than arenas in several larger regional markets including New Orleans, Las Vegas, Kansas City, Houston and Austin.

The first quarter of 2017 was highlighted by several sold-out concerts that included Red Hot Chili Peppers, Eric Church, Twenty One Pilots, Green Day and Miranda Lambert. BOK Center also hosted two large scale sporting events which included the Big 12 Wrestling Championship and the NCAA D1 Men's Basketball First and Second Rounds.

"Congratulations to BOK Center staff, all local music fans and our promoter partners for achieving such a high ranking for U.S. ticket sales," said Doug Thornton, Executive Vice President for SMG. "This shows that Tulsa continues to be a strong market for live entertainment and we are thrilled to be a part of that success story."

In addition to garnering a high ticket sales ranking, BOK Center was also named “Arena of the Year” in 2016 by the International Entertainment Buyers Association. The industry trade group and its voters selected the Tulsa venue for the prestigious award over Madison Square Garden (New York City), Barclays Center (Brooklyn), T-Mobile Arena (Las Vegas) and The Forum (Los Angeles).

The O2 (London) topped the overall ticket sales rankings and Barclays Center (Brooklyn) garnered the top United States spot. The rankings are determined by tickets sold worldwide for concerts from January 1, 2017 to March 31, 2017. *Pollstar* totals do not include tenant sport team ticket counts, some family shows, or SMG-produced special events.

## **Schuler Shook Announces Newest Partner**



Schuler Shook is pleased to announce Michael Burgoyne, ASTC, as the newest Partner in the firm. Michael joined Schuler Shook’s Minneapolis office as a Theatre Planner in 2000 and became a Principal in 2011. Michael’s strong leadership skills and excellent client support competencies make him an invaluable member of our team.

Michael’s notable projects include the Ordway Center for the Performing Arts, Orchestra Hall, Kings Theatre, Saenger Theatre, and Smart Financial Centre. His upcoming projects include Cincinnati Music Hall, Manhattan School of Music, and the Confluence Center in Eau Claire, Wisconsin.

(Continued, page 4...)

Outside of work, Michael enjoys camping and exploring our state and national parks with his wife and two children.

Michael is an alumnus of North Carolina School of the Arts and is an active member of United Scenic Artists, American Society of Theatre Consultants, and United States Institute for Theatre Technology.

“Michael is a great leader and designer, and that’s a rare combination of skills. We are very happy to have him as a Partner in the practice. He is leading the future of Schuler Shook.” Michael DiBlasi, ASTC, Partner and Practice Leader in Schuler Shook’s Minneapolis office.

## Nicolò Brambilla Joins Schuler Shook Team



*Nicolò Brambilla, IALD, Senior Lighting Designer at Schuler Shook.*

Schuler Shook announces Nicolò Brambilla, IALD, has joined our Melbourne office as Senior Lighting Designer. Nicolò is expanding Schuler Shook’s award-winning specialty lighting services to Australia where Schuler Shook currently provides theatre planning and AV design.

Nicolò has nearly fourteen years of experience in the lighting industry. His clients benefit from his experience working in Australia and internationally in Milan, The Netherlands, Hong Kong, China and Southeast Asia. His specialty lighting design work for the past seven years in Melbourne has encompassed a range of project types including hospitality, retail, worship and sport.

Nicolò believes in designing lighting that is well-integrated with the architecture, and he is motivated by the impact of light on emotion and on the human being as a whole.

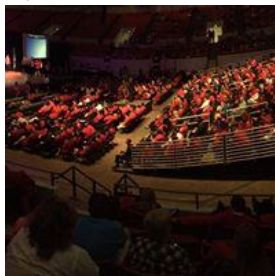
When he is not designing lighting, Nicolò enjoys playing drums with his rock band and riding the Victorian countryside on his motorbike. He lives in Melbourne with his family.

Schuler Shook’s Melbourne office comprises a group of creative, well-respected designers, including **Jim Hultquist**, ASTC, LEED AP, Senior Theatre Consultant; **Simon Austin**, AV and Theatre Systems Consultant; and **Nicolò Brambilla**, IALD, Senior Lighting Designer.

Recent and current projects in the office include Sydney Opera House Concert Hall Renewal, Hamer Hall, Cairns Performing Arts Centre, Bunjil Place Theatre, Sydney Lyric Theatre, and Her Majesty’s Theatre in Adelaide.

## Super Busy Events Schedule at Cox Business Center

With an event scheduled almost daily, April was a busy month in Tulsa at Cox Business Center. The facility hosted conferences & trade shows, dinners/galas, dance & cheer competitions, and even a couple of proms! The Pipeline & Energy Expo, Skills USA, Oklahomans for Equality Gala, and Community Food Bank of Oklahoma – Empty Bowls were just a few of the events that packed CBC in April.



## OVO Takes Over El Paso



Cirque du Soleil brought its much anticipated insect-themed presentation, “OVO,” for eight shows from April 12-16, 2017, in The University of Texas at El Paso’s Don Haskins Center. More than 29,000 people from the El Paso del Norte region attended the show. It is the second best-selling Cirque du Soleil show to have been performed at the Haskins Center.



The company of Canadian acrobats also commissioned a permanent art mural in downtown El Paso as a “thank you” gift to the city that loves the Cirque. OVO was the fifth show the group has brought to the Sun City. Some of the show’s insect characters participated in the unveiling and even visited with many local children at the El Paso Public Library’s Main Branch.

## Adams Receives Promotion

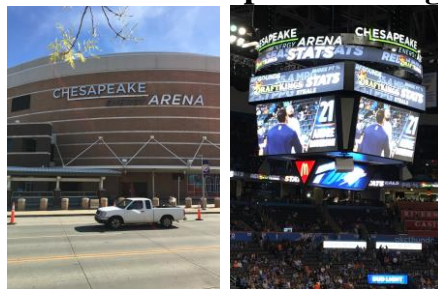


Alonzo Adams has been an employee of SMG Oklahoma City for 14 years and had climbed through the ranks to become an Event Security Supervisor. When the opportunity for promotion came available, he was an ideal candidate for the Guest Relations and Event Security Manager position.

Adams is eager to continue to build positive work relationships with staff. He is passionate about working with staff and his department to further improve guest and security services and provide a fan-friendly and safe venue for everyone.

His other passions? Adams is an incredible photographer and enjoys storm chasing! Help us welcome Alonzo Adams as the newest full-time staff member at SMG OKC!

## A New Look for Chesapeake Energy Arena



Chesapeake Energy Arena got a facelift at the beginning of April. Crews worked to install new logo signage throughout the building just in time for the Thunder Playoffs.



## Food Truck Friday with SMG Oklahoma City



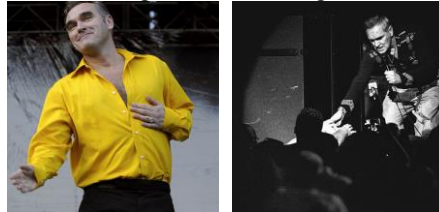
The Employee Engagement Committee at SMG Oklahoma City celebrated its employees once again with a pizza party for all working employees, hosted outside Cox Convention Center on April 14.

The team hired local food truck The Saucee Sicilian to feed 200+ SMG and Thunder employees as a thank you for their hard work during the Thunder season. The truck served incredible wood-fired pizzas to more than 230 guests.

The Employee Engagement Committee was established to foster relationships with employees at SMG Oklahoma City and to thank employees for their hard work and dedication to the buildings and guests. Members of the committee include Brittany Hatampa, Debbie Karunaratne, Kristy John and Riley Thomas.

## SMART FINANCIAL CENTRE HOSTS MORRISSEY'S HOUSTON SHOW AFTER LAST-MINUTE VENUE CHANGE

SUGAR LAND, TEXAS – Legendary Smiths frontman, Morrissey, performed for more than 3,000 fans at Smart Financial Centre at Sugar Land on Friday, April 14 after confirming and announcing the venue change two days prior.



After a series of thunderstorms saturated their outdoor concert lawn, White Oak Music Hall approached Smart Financial Centre to host Morrissey's Houston performance, which already had two previous cancellations. Despite a 5,000-seat Easter service scheduled for Sunday, the venue mobilized its staff to reconfigure the auditorium to accommodate the performance in short timeframe.

In addition to the tight deadline, Smart Financial Centre was challenged with hosting a general admission show with existing tickets from the White Oak venue which were on a completely different ticketing platform. To date, Smart Financial Centre had only hosted reserved seat events. The Ticket Office integrated the existing tickets into the venue scanner system and built the show within the Ticketmaster system in order to sell additional tickets to the event.

Utilizing its moveable walls technology, the operations staff reconfigured the auditorium to create a more intimate setting and worked in tandem with security and usher staff company CSC to develop a crowd management strategy to reseat White Oak Music Hall premium seating areas and the general admission ticket holders.

As the operations staff prepared the auditorium, Smart Financial Centre's marketing staff quickly alerted current ticket holders and fans of the venue change, engaging local radio stations, its email database and growing social media channels. As a result, the venue garnered the attention of Houston's leading entertainment writers at the Houston Chronicle, Houston Press, and PaperCity Magazine.

On the night of the performance, Smart Financial Centre welcomed approximately 3,500 guests for the Morrissey show.

## Walton Arts Center Celebrates 25 Years



Walton Arts Center celebrated its 25<sup>th</sup> birthday on April 24 - the anniversary of the arts center's first performance. Walton Arts Center chose to celebrate the milestone with an evening reception for the arts center's financial supporters and friends from the Northwest Arkansas community.

More than 140 Friends of Walton Arts Center attended the reception in the Walker Atrium including members of the media and current as well as previous members of the board of directors and the organization's Corporate Leadership Council.

"We wanted to create an event that celebrated the history of Walton Arts Center to thank these individual donors for their continued support over the years," said Will Watson, annual giving manager.

Walton Arts Center began through a public/private partnership between the University of Arkansas, the City of Fayetteville and community members. Now as Arkansas' largest and busiest arts presenter, more than 342,600 people attend events at Walton Arts Center venues annually, and its arts education programs reach 45,000 students, teachers and citizens statewide. Walton Arts Center has become a cornerstone of the region's cultural landscape.

"Our campus was constructed in a previously depressed section of town, and it jumpstarted the creation of Fayetteville's entertainment district," Peter Lane, president and CEO of Walton Arts Center said. "With the addition of the Walmart AMP in 2014 and the unveiling of our renovated performing arts campus this year, Walton Arts Center continues serving the community in new and innovative ways that encourage additional development and growth in the community."

Walton Arts Center also has been an incubator for developing companies during the last quarter century: Symphony of Northwest Arkansas—the region's professional symphony orchestra, professional theater companies TheatreSquared and Trike Theatre for Youth, and Community Creative Center—an art studio for adults and youth.

Because April was Volunteer Appreciation Month, Lane also took the opportunity to recognize the fleet of volunteers who continue to donate their time to the center to fill a variety of positions. At Walton Arts Center, 180 volunteers donated 21,000 hours last season, or the equivalent of nine full-time paid positions.

The evening ended with patrons getting exclusive, all-access tours of the facility led by Lane; Missy Kincaid, vice president of Development; and Wendy Riggs, vice president of operations.

## Walton Arts Center Promotes Kyle May, Hires Thomas DeBari

[Walton Arts Center](#) recently promoted Kyle May to Walmart AMP corporate manager and hired Thomas DeBari to fill the position of facility services manager.

In his new role, May is responsible for developing relationships with corporate sponsors and box holders who support the Walmart AMP. May also will be focused on sponsorship fulfillment, overseeing the popular Club AMP membership program and assisting in strategic planning and sponsor development for AMP Fest, Walton Arts Center's new Beer, Music and Tech Festival held in October.

May has held several positions at Walton Arts Center including development coordinator for the nonprofit's annual giving program and most recently corporate relations coordinator for the Walmart AMP. Before joining the Walton Arts Center staff, May worked as the community development coordinator for the Arts Council of Central Louisiana in Alexandria, La. He graduated with a liberal arts degree from Louisiana Scholar's College at Northeastern State University.

DeBari is responsible for managing the Walton Arts Center facilities staff that operates and maintains both the performing arts campus in Fayetteville and Walmart Arkansas Music Pavilion in Rogers.

(Continued, page 8..)

Previously, DeBari worked in the decorative painting industry in New York City for 10 years where he collaborated with renowned designers at the Greenwich Hotel to create high-end custom paint and plaster finishes at the Greenwich Hotel in Tribeca.

DeBari has a Master's Degree in Fine Art from American University. He and his wife, Jessica, currently own and operate DeBari Home, an interior design business serving Northwest Arkansas.

## **FRANK ERWIN CENTER STAFF MEMBERS RECEIVE TWO AWARDS AT THE AUSTIN AWM TRAILBLAZER AND AWARDS OF EXCELLENCE GALA**



The Frank Erwin Center Marketing Team from L-R  
Josh Hernandez, Laura Bennett, Kasey El-Chayeb, Anna Wong, Melissa Taylor, Liz Land, Romina Jara

The Frank Erwin Center won two awards at the Alliance for Women in Media (AWM) Trailblazer and Awards of Excellence Gala on April 20. The Erwin Center won for Agency of the Year and staff member Romina Jara won the award for Agency Rookie of the Year. (Continued, page 9...)

The Erwin Center's marketing team acts as an advertising agency for all public ticketed events at the venue. They conduct market research, develop marketing campaigns, place media buys, traffic spots and ads, create display materials and evaluate the effectiveness of campaigns. In 2017 to date, the team has developed campaigns for Stevie Nicks, Sesame Street Live, Panic! At The Disco and Monster Jam. Members of the marketing staff include Laura Bennett, Kasey El-Chayeb, Josh Hernandez, Romina Jara, Melissa Taylor and Anna Wong.

Romina Jara was recognized individually by AWM as Agency Rookie of the Year. A graduate of The University of Texas at Austin, she joined the Erwin Center marketing team in August 2016 as a Communications and Marketing Representative. Romina assists with marketing, promotions and publicity campaigns for professional entertainment events and also aids in suite operations and group sales.

## **TOM PETTY AND THE HEARTBREAKERS PLAY TO SOLD OUT CROWD AT FRANK ERWIN CENTER**

Tom Petty shared his love for Austin and said it was one of his favorite places to stop on tour during his performance on May 2 at the Frank Erwin Center.



Tom Petty and Gary Clark Jr. at the Frank Erwin Center, May 2, 2017  
Photo by Gary Miller

If a sold-out crowd is any indication of love, Austin loves him right back. Tom Petty and The Heartbreakers entertained a crowd of more than 12,000 for two hours, playing songs spanning the band's 40 years together.

Austin native, Gary Clark Jr, opened for Tom Petty and The Heartbreakers, setting the tone for the night and even joined the iconic band onstage for "Good Enough." Yesterday's performance marked the 11th time Tom Petty and The Heartbreakers played the Erwin Center, who is also celebrating 40 years this year.



## **iHeartCountry Festival, A Music Experience by AT&T Brings Country Music Superstars Together for Fourth Straight Year in Austin**

Country music's biggest superstars performed for a sold out crowd of nearly 15,000 fans on May 6 at the Frank Erwin Center in a live celebration of all things country. The country music of the iHeartRadio app came to life with an extraordinary lineup including Jason Aldean, Lady Antebellum, Rascal Flatts, Little Big Town, Old Dominion, Dierks Bentley, Kelsea Ballerini, Brantley Gilbert, Jake Owen, Darius Rucker, Bobby Bones and the Raging Idiots and Kip Moore.



L-R – Jimmy Earl, CFE, Liz Land, Jake Owen, Anna Wong, Laura Bennett  
Photo by Obi Ariguzo

The 2017 festival also featured the return of the Daytime Village with performances by Lindsay Ell, Kane Brown, Tucker Beathard, Chris Janson, Jon Pardi and Kip Moore.

### **A Mindfulness Culture**

By Sean Daly, Johnson & Wales University - Denver

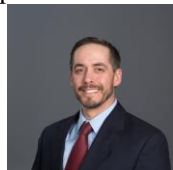
**Are you mindful?** A question that many of us have heard, but very few of us have contemplated. When you manage a group of people that you need to be calm under pressure, us creative decision-making, and are able to focus on the present do you (the leader) assist or do you require? A highly respected industry friend once said to me, Sean “shouldn’t we hire slow and fire fast?” This was something that has resonated with me for over a year since she asked me and I still feel as though that is a failed model of leadership in the workplace.

When I hear of someone saying that they prefer to hire slow and fire fast I think to myself “who would want to work there?” In fact, in today’s uber competitive marketplace don’t we want to attract the best talent? As a venue your goal is to be highly effective in delivery amazing experiences to both your clients and your guests, but how can you do that while firing fast and not attracting top talent?

Practicing mindfulness at work is not as complicated as it may seem and there is a mountain of research that supports its ability to make employees happier and more productive. I’m not going to say that I’m an expert in mindfulness training or management, but I will say that I am an expert in managing people and from what I’ve read and heard from other people about this type of organizational culture it is hard to consider why we don’t employ it in all our venues. Funky cultures like this aren’t just reserved for the uber wealthy corporations like Google, Apple, and Facebook. They can be for smaller venues and even those mom and pop vendors.

In fact something as simple as workplace meditation was found to have a positive impact on workplace functioning. Studies have shown that practicing mindfulness at work can lead to decreased employee frustration, employee absenteeism, and lower rates of burnout (Schultz, 2015). Clearly these are characteristics of a workplace we all want. Just the cost of finding a new employee should support the value of this culture. Furthermore, a mindful culture at work has been highly correlated with ethical decision-making and emotional regulation in the workplace (Good, Lyddy, et al., 2016; Schultz, 2015). Working in the venue world can be frustrating at times and the emotional ups and downs that happen in between load in and load out can be extreme. We should all look for ways to help our employees be able to manage the stress better.

In the end my goal is always the same. How can we look at the connection between our human resources and our financial resources to determine a better way, a more efficient and effective way, of operating? I’m not a mindfulness expert, but I think this is a great example of a simple thing we can do to make our workplace better. As always, if you have any questions, comments, or want a copy of my references please feel free to contact me at [sdaly@jwu.edu](mailto:sdaly@jwu.edu).



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## **Multipurpose Arena Fort Worth and Dickies Announce Naming Rights Deal for New Fort Worth Arena**



Multipurpose Arena Fort Worth (MAFW) and Dickies® announced a naming rights partnership establishing Dickies Arena as the name of Fort Worth’s new 14,000 seat arena, located adjacent to the Will Rogers Memorial Center and set to open in Nov. 2019.

The surprise partnership was announced at MAFW and the City of Fort Worth’s “Let The Dirt Fly” groundbreaking ceremony on April 18 commemorating the arena. MAFW, the not-for-profit operating entity of Dickies Arena, and the City of Fort Worth hosted the event, and speakers at the ceremony included Ed Bass, chairman of board of MAFW and the Fort Worth Stock Show & Rodeo, Fort Worth Mayor Betsy Price and Philip Williamson, chairman and CEO of Williamson-Dickie Mfg. Co.

The partnership includes branding on the exterior of the arena, at entrances and in the interior of the facility, among other opportunities like outfitting arena staff in Dickies performance workwear.

The new arena is the result of a pioneering public-private partnership between the City of Fort Worth, Tarrant County, the State of Texas and a group of private-sector participants, including foundations, individuals and organizations. The partnership was overwhelmingly approved by voters in November 2014.

## **Fort Worth Announced as Host City for 2022 NCAA Men’s Basketball First and Second Rounds and NCAA Women’s Gymnastics**

Less than an hour after a surprise naming rights announcement at Dickies Arena “Let The Dirt Fly” groundbreaking ceremony on April 18, Multipurpose Arena Fort Worth broke news of major future events at the venue.

Dickies Arena was named as a host for the 2022 NCAA Men’s Basketball First and Second Rounds. Additionally, Fort Worth will be the host city for four years for NCAA Women’s Gymnastics Championships, beginning in 2019. The event will be held at the Fort Worth Convention Center for the first year and will move to Fort Worth Arena in 2020 for the remaining years.

The NCAA Men’s Basketball Tournament and NCAA Women’s Gymnastics Championships are the second and third announced events at the venue. Fort Worth Arena was announced as the new home to Fort Worth Stock Show Rodeo performances beginning in 2020.

The Fort Worth CVB was recognized nationally for hosting the NCAA Women’s Gymnastics Championships in 2015 and 2016.

## **SMG-DESTINATION EL PASO SEEKS DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS & MANAGER OF OPERATIONS**

**SMG**, the leader in privately managed public assembly facilities has an immediate opening for the following positions at Destination El Paso:

### **DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS**

#### *Position Summary:*

Responsible for scheduling and supervising personnel and subcontractors, implement daily activities for successful execution of events, and oversee maintenance of the facilities by performing a variety of duties personally, or through subordinate supervisors.

#### *Education and Experience:*

Bachelor’s degree required, Engineering degree preferred. Minimum of 5 – 8 years related experience in the public assembly industry in a supervisory position.

(Continued, page 11...)

## OPERATIONS MANAGER:

### *Position Summary:*

Responsible for the overall management of the Safety and Security Department, Parking, Production, Shipping and Receiving, Engineering, Custodial Housekeeping and Changeover Departments, encompassing administrative functions, efficient daily operations, activities and maintenance for all SMG facilities. Oversees all administrative and management functions necessary to ensure efficient departmental operations by performing the following duties personally and through subordinate personnel.

### *Education and Experience:*

Must have two or more years of college level work in business management or related field, three years of experience working in a business related field and knowledge of forecasting methods is preferred.

**For the complete job description or to apply, visit: <http://www.elpasolive.com/contact/jobs> or contact Emilio Velez, Human Resources Manager at: [HRecruiter@destinationelpaso.com](mailto:HRecruiter@destinationelpaso.com)**

**SMG is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action employer, and encourages Women, Minorities, Individuals with Disabilities, and protected Veterans to apply. VEVRAA Federal Contractor**



Kerry Painter – CFE, CEM, CMP  
Region 6 Assistant Director  
Assistant General Manager  
Cox Business Center  
[KPainter@smgtulsa.com](mailto:KPainter@smgtulsa.com)

Brian Stovall, CVP – Recent Past Region 6 Director  
[briancstovall@gmail.com](mailto:briancstovall@gmail.com)

Sherman Bass, CFE – Past Region 6 Director  
General Manager  
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Kyle Baun – Region 6 Treasurer  
Vice President of Ticket Sales and Event Sales  
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**Thank you to our newsletter contributors this month!**

Jinger Belcher – Cox Business Center  
Meghan Blood (Doyle) – BOK Center  
Ryan Bonifas – Fair Park  
Alissa Cunningham – Multipurpose Arena Fort Worth  
Sean Daly – Johnson and Wales University - Denver  
Andrew Huang – Smart Financial Centre  
Kerry Painter – Cox Business Center  
Mollie Prince – Schuler Shook  
Riley Thomas – Chesapeake Energy Arena, Cox Convention Center  
Julian Valdez – University of Texas at El Paso Don Haskins Center  
Emilio Velez, Jr. – SMG Destination El Paso  
Kevin Welch – Curtis Culwell Center  
Jennifer Wilson – Walton Arts Center & Walmart AMP  
Anna Wong – Frank Erwin Center, University of Texas at Austin  
Megan Yaussi – VenueWorks-Topeka Performing Arts Center

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